

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

DHA-02 IO-10 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 OMB-01

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R 021451Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 527

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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SUBJ: NORWEGIAN REACTION TO EVENTS IN SPAIN PREDICTABLY SEVERE

REFS: (A) OSLO 4197 (B) OSLO 4081(NOTAL)

SUMMARY: CONDEMNATION OF AND REPUGNANCE AT EXECUTIONS

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IN SPAIN ARE WIDESPREAD AND STRONGLY FELT IN NORWAY,

AS ELSEWHERE IN EUROPE. PRIME MINISTER BRATTELI WAS CHARACTERISTICALLY RESTRAINED IN HIS COMMENTS. LABOR MOVEMENT (PARTY AND LO) HAVE TAKEN LEAD IN CONDEMNING FRANCO, ORGANIZING DEMONSTRATIONS AND USING OCCASION TO BUILD UP SUPPORT FOR HELP TO SPANISH OPPOSITION. LACK OF USG RESPONSE HAS DRAWN UNFAVORABLE NOTICE BUT RECEIVED BALANCED TREATMENT IN PRESS. END SUMMARY.

1. NORWEGIAN PRIME MINISTER (AND ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER) TRYGVE BRATTELI LIMITED HIS COMMENTS AFTER SPANISH EXECUTIONS TO REMINDER THAT NORWAY HAD APPEALED STRONGLY TO SPANISH GOVERNMENT NOT TO CARRY THEM OUT, BASING APPEAL ON CONSIDERATIONS OF HUMANITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEIGHBORLY RELATIONS BETWEEN EUROPEAN NATIONS. FOREIGN MINISTER, AWAY ATTENDING UNGA, APPEALED TO SPANISH GOVERNMENT VIA SPANISH UN AMBASSADOR TO REFRAIN FROM FURTHER SUCH PENAL REACTIONS IN VIOLATION OF WESTERN LEGAL PRINCIPLES. STORTING (PARLIAMENT) FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TOR OTFEDAL CALLED FOR REASSESSMENT OF POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH SPAIN AND BOYCOTT BY NORWEGIAN TOURISTS. HE ALSO PREDICTED THAT EXECUTIONS WILL PREVENT ANY SPANISH REAPPROACHMENT WITH NATO OR EEC AS LONG AS FRANCO REGIME LASTS. STORTING PRESIDENT GUTTORM HANSEN IN TURN EXPRESSED HIS REGRETS OVER FAILURE OF FRANCO REGIME TO RESPOND TO APPEALS FOR CLEMENCY IN BRIEF REMARKS AT OPENING OF PARLIAMENT ON OCT 2.

2. FOREIGN MINISTRY RECALLED NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR BOYE FROM MADRID FOR CONSULTATIONS. BOYE GAVE BALANCED ACCOUNT OF COMPLEX SITUATION IN SPAIN IN TV INTERVIEW SEPTEMBER 29. HE REJECTED IDEA OF TOURIST BOYCOTT, SUGGESTING INSTEAD DESIRABILITY OF CONTACTS WITH SPANISH PEOPLE NOW THAT SPAIN IS UNDERGOING MAJOR AND TRAGIC UPHEAVAL. BOYE'S INTERVIEW DREW CONSIDERABLE CRITICISM.

3. LABOR MOVEMENT HAS SEIZED ON EXECUTIONS TO MOUNT MAJOR DEMONSTRATION OF REPUGNANCE FOR FRANCO REGIME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND ITS METHODS AND TO ENCOURAGE SUPPORT FOR OPPOSITION ELEMENTS, EFFECTIVELY PREEMPTING ISSUE FROM FAR LEFT. LABOR MOVEMENT'S TRAVEL AGENCY ANNOUNCED IT WILL NO LONGER SELL TICKETS TO SPAIN AND CALLED ON OTHER TRAVEL AGENCIES TO DO LIKEWISE. TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO) DECLARED FIVE MINUTE SILENT WORK STOPPAGE AT NOON OCTOBER 2, WHICH EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION HAS DECLARED ANTI-FRANCO DAY.

LO AND TRANSPORT WORKERS' UNION COOPERATING
ON 24-HOUR BLOCKADE OF AIR TRAFFIC TO SPAIN
OCTOBER 2 AND OSLO AND BERGEN TRADE UNION COUNCILS
ARE HOLDING PROTEST MARCHES AND DEMONSTRATIONS AT
1730 SAME DAY. LO AND LABOR PARTY ARE ALSO USING
OCTOBER 2 TO LAUNCH FUND RAISING DRIVE "FOR RESISTANCE
FIGHTERS", PROCEEDS OF WHICH WILL BE CHanneled
THROUGH SPAIN COMMITTEE TO UGT AND PSOE. LO IS
APPEALING TO GOVERNMENT TO STOP SALE OF CHARTER TOURS
TO SPAIN THROUGH NATIONAL RAILROAD TRAVEL AGENCY.
LO AND LABOR PARTY HAVE APPEALED TO NORWEGIANS NOT
TO VISIT SPAIN. LABOR PARTY CHAIRMAN REIULF STEEN
HAS CALLED ON OTHER PARTIES TO MEET WITH LABOR
PARTY OCTOBER 2 TO DISCUSS THEIR COMMON OUTRAGE AND
WHAT SHOULD BE DONE.

4. PUBLIC AND PRESS REACTIONS TO FIVE EXECUTIONS HAVE
BEEN STRONGLY FELT AND UNIVERSALLY UNFAVORABLE.
LABOR PRESS HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY BITTER, WHILE
CONSERVATIVE PRESS HAS QUALIFIED ITS DISTASTE AT
EXECUTIONS AND DISBELIEF IN FAIRNESS OF JUDICIAL
PROCEEDINGS WITH COMMENTS THAT IT OPPOSES POLITICAL
TERRORISM AND CRITICISM OF LABOR PRESS FOR NOT
CRITICIZING SIMILAR SOVIET EXECUTIONS. PRESS HAS ALSO
COMMENTED ON LACK OF US RESPONSE, SAYING
WE FAIL TO RECOGNIZE THAT MORAL ISSUE INVOLVED.
HOWEVER, OSLO LABOR DAILY ARBEIDERBALDET ALSO NOTED
ERIK SEVAREID'S CHALLENGE TO SWEDES TO JUSTIFY AIDING
SPANISH OPPOSITION WHILE CRITICIZING US AID TO CHILEAN
OPPOSITION UNDER ALLENDE. LABOR AND SOME OTHER PAPERS
SUGGEST THAT US SILENCE MAY HAVE UNFAVORABLE LONG
RANGE EFFECTS ON US INTERESTS IN SPAIN IN VIEW OF
FRANCE REGIME'S SHORT LIFE EXPECTANCY. CON-
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CONSERVATIVE PAPERS SUGGEST WESTERN EUROPEAN PROTESTS
MAY BE EMBARRASSING US IN ITS ATTEMPTS TO RENEGOTIATE
BASE AGREEMENT. ABOUT 2,500 DEMONSTRATORS MARCHED
QUIETLY AND UNEVENTFULLY PAST US EMBASSY EN ROUTE
FROM SPANISH EMBASSY TO UNIVERSITY FOR DEMONSTRATION
SEPT 30. YOUNG CONSERVATIVE CHAIRMAN PER KRISTIAN
FOSS CRITICIZED LABOR FOR OPPOSING TOURISM TO SPAIN
WHILE ENCOURAGING IT TO USSR.

5. LO INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY SANDEGREN HAS
RECEIVED MANY QUESTIONS AS TO HOW USG OR US TRADE UNIONS ARE
REACTING.
BUCHANAN

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